

## Message Text

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44

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-15 USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-13 DRC-01 CU-04 EUR-25 NIC-01

/148 W

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R 190900Z SEP 73

FM AMCONSUL IZMIR

TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 1055

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, TU

SUBJECT: RPP VIEWS THE CAMPAIGN

SUMMARY: RPP IZMIR PROVINCIAL CHAIRMAN SAYS RPP CAMPAIGN PROGRESSING VERY WELL. AS RESULT RECENT RALLIES ECEVIT TRULY BELIEVES RPP HAS CHANCE OF PLURALITY. STATEMENTS MADE BY ECEVIT AT MEETING IN ANKARA IMPORTANT BECAUSE THEY CLEARLY ESTABLISH LIMITS OF LEFTWARD THRUST OF RPP. END SUMMARY.

1 DURING LUNCHEON CONVERSATION WITH POLOFF IZMIR RPP PROVINCIAL CHAIRMAN AND CENTRAL QUOTA DEPUTY

PAGE 2 RUQNBWA7380 C O N F I D E N T I A L

CANDIDATE FROM IZMIR ALEV COSKN SAID RPP LEADERS VERY PLEASED WITH BEGINNING OF THEIR CAMPAIGN.

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SEPT 9 RALLY IN IZMIR AND SEPT 16 RALLY IN ANKARA

MORE SUCCESSFUL THAN HAD BEEN ANTICIPATED. LARGE AND ENTHUSIASTIC TURNOUTS HAVE PERSUADED ECEVIT THAT RPP TRULY HAS CHANCE OF GAINING PLURALITY AND PARTICIPATING IN A COALITION GOVERNMENT. ECEVIT'S HOPES PREDICATED ON LARGE NSP AND DP SHOWING CUTTING INTO JP STRENGTH. ACCORDING COSKUN RPP WOULD BE WILLING TO FORM COALITION WITH JP, DP OR NSP. COSKUN ADMITTED HE NOT QUITE SO SANGUINE ABOUT RPP'S CHANCES OF COMING TO POWER. HE SAID HE WOULD BE PLEASED IF RPP WERE TO GET 150 DEPUTIES.

2. COSKUN SAID THAT TO DATE ONLY TWO PAPERS APPEARED TO BE CAMPAIGNING: RPP AND NSP. HE SAID, WITHOUT EVIDENT CONCERN, THAT HE WAS SATISFIED BY DEMIREL'S STRATEGY. NSP WORKING QRD AND SHOWING SURPRISING STRENGTH. HE PREDICTED NSP WOULD WIN SEVERAL SEATS IN AEGEAN REGION AND MIGHT EVEN WIN ONE IN IZMIR.

PA 3 RUQNBWA7380 C O N F I D E N T I A L

/ SEPT 16 RALLY IN ANKARA, FROM WHICH COSKUN HAD JUST RETURNED, EXTREMELY IMPORTANT. DESPITE LAST MOMENT REFUSAL OF MINISTER OF SPORTS TO ALLOW USE OF SPORTS STADIUM, PERMISSION FOR OPEN RALLY WAS OBTAINED UNDER MARTIAL LAW ADMINISTRATION. DESPITE

CHANGE OF PLANS RESULTANT CROWD MUCH BETTER THAN HOPED. SPONTANEOUS MARCH TO ATATURK MEMORIAL AFTER SPEECH EVOKED MEMORIES OF RPP'S BETTER DAYS.

4. SUBSEQUENT MEETING IN MOVIE THEATER AT WHICH ECEVIT TALKS TO PARTY FAITHFUL EXTREMELY IMPORTANT

ACCORDING COSKUN. COSKUN SAID PURPOSE AND EFFECT OF ECEVIT'S REMARKS WERE TO DELINEATE CLEARLY LEFTWARD LIMIT OF RPP. THRUST OF REMARKS WAS THAT RPP WAS LEFT WING PARTY ONLY TO EXTENT THERE NO INFRINGEMENT OF DEMOCRATIC PRINCIPLES. VIOLENCE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THUS UNSUPPORTABLE. RPP NOT A PARTY OF PROLETARIAT, NOT A CLASS PARTY, BUT RATHER A PARTY OF DIVERSITY. COSKUN LAMENTED FACT NEWSPAPERS HAD NOT ADEQUATELY REPORTED STATEMENTS MADE BY ECEVIT DURING THIS MEETING. HE CLAIMS ECEVIT AND RPP ANTICIPATE AND

PAGE 4 RUBWA7380 C O N F I D E N T I A L  
NOT CONCERNED BY CRITICISM BY YENI ORTAM AND OTHER  
ELEMENTS OF "PROGRESSIVE" PRESS.

5. COMMENT: COSKUN, WHO WAS RPP YOUTH LEADER IN  
LATE 50S, CLAIMS TO BE OLD FRIEND OF ECEVP. HE HAS  
LIVED EIGHT OF LAST NINE YARS IN U.S. AND HAS VERY  
POSITIVE ATPTUDE TOWARD U.S.; HE OBVIOUSLY WAS AT  
SOME PAINS TO MAKE POINT ECEVIT PRIMARILY A DEMOCRAT  
AND PRAGMATIST AND THAT HIS LEXISM FAR FROM  
EXTREMIST. WHILE HE WAS FACLY PERSUASIVE IN THIS  
REGARD, HE WAS LESS SO IN PREDICTING SUCCESS OF RPP  
IN OCTOBER ELECTION.  
SMITH

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